

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

10/709,482

Examiner

Susan C. Alimenti

Applicant(s)

YIN, WAY

Art Unit

3644

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to communications filed 5/8/04.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-18.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 08 May 2004 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☒ All    b) ☐ Some\*    c) ☐ None    of the:
    1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
  6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
    - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
      - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
    - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit  
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

### EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Bruce Harang on 7 October 2004.

2. The application has been amended as follows:

**Claim 1 (presently amended)** - Apparatus for the knotless connecting and disconnecting of sections of fly fishing lines in cooperative combination comprising :

a female component permanently attached to an end of a first fishing line and having an first ellipsoidal body having a bore therethrough at an acute angle to the first ellipsoidal body longitudinal axis, one end of said bore having a first contoured opening and the other end of said bore having a second contoured opening, a fusiform line mounting stem portion on the longitudinal axis on one end of said first ellipsoidal body, and a channel on the longitudinal axis of said first ellipsoidal body connecting one contoured opening to the other end of said first ellipsoidal body; and

a male component permanently attached to an end of a second fishing line and having an second ellipsoidal body dimensioned to fit within said bore in said female component and having a fusiform stem portion on the longitudinal axis at one end of said second ellipsoidal body, said

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fusiform stem comprising a channel mating section proximal to said second ellipsoidal body and a line mounting portion distal to said second ellipsoidal body; thereby allowing the connection to, and disconnection from said fly fishing lines with one another.

**Claims 2-9 (original)**

**Claim 10 (presently amended)** - Apparatus for the knotless connecting and disconnecting of sections of fly fishing lines in cooperative combination comprising:

a female component permanently attached to an end of a first fishing line and having an first ellipsoidal body having a bore therethrough at an acute angle to the first ellipsoidal body longitudinal axis, one end of said bore having a first contoured opening and the other end of said bore having a second contoured opening, a fusiform line mounting stem portion on the longitudinal axis on one end of said first ellipsoidal body said fusiform line mounting stem having a plurality of retaining nodes thereon, and a channel on the longitudinal axis of said first ellipsoidal body connecting one contoured opening to the other end of said first ellipsoidal body; and

a male component permanently attached to an end of a second fishing line and having an second ellipsoidal body dimensioned to fit within said bore in said female component and having a fusiform stem portion on the longitudinal axis at one end of said second ellipsoidal body, said fusiform stem comprising a channel mating section proximal to said second ellipsoidal body and a line mounting portion distal to said second ellipsoidal body and said fusiform line mounting stem distal portion having a plurality of retaining nodes thereon; thereby allowing the connection to, and disconnection from, said fly fishing lines with one another.

**Claims 11-18 (original)**

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3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: While the prior art made of record shows several line connectors, it fails to show a line connector having one female ellipsoidal body having a bore through it at an acute angle from the longitudinal axis, and a second male ellipsoidal body, each of the bodies having a stem portion on the longitudinal axis being fusiform or tapered in nature.


Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Susan C. Alimenti whose telephone number is 703-306-0360. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 9am-5pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Teri Luu can be reached on 703-305-7421. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

5. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

SCA

  
**TERI P. LUU**  
**SUPERVISORY PRIMARY EXAMINER**